

KITÄ, M. et al.  
Appl. No. To be assigned  
March 4, 2004

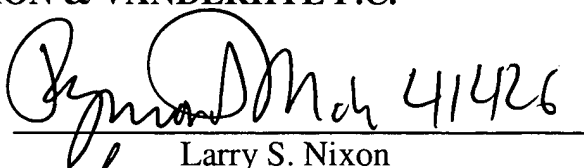
**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependent claims, without prejudice. The specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to the parent application.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:

  
Larry S. Nixon  
for Reg. No. 25,640

LSN:ecb  
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100